

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 36 | Min 19 | Humidity 22%

Clear with periodic clouds

Sensex 60,431 | Nifty 17,828 | Gold 60,348 | Silver 75,665 | Dollar 81.85 | Euro 90.87 | GBP 101.67



FAKING IT

Age of the duplicate



BRANCH OFF

Lake revived, trees damaged

Why storm drains, not cleaned in years, accumulating silt, trash and sewage, need flushing before monsoon

DRAIN ON YOUR PARADE

Students survey 400 m-long storm water drain

I Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

If the condition of secondary storm water drains around KR Market, Bakshi Garden and Cottonpet is any indication, it seems the officials concerned at the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) are yet to pull up their socks. The apathy of engineers at the storm water drains department in fixing the issue is bewildering despite knowing that these areas are vulnerable to flooding whenever it rains heavily in the city.

Recently, a group of students pursuing their master's degrees in social work conducted a survey on the condition of the storm water drains at Bakshi Garden and other areas. The students are doing their internships at the not-for-profit ActionAid Association. They managed to survey a 400 m-long storm water drain that is filled with silt, garbage and sewage.

"The drain is full of silt, garbage and sewage. There are a few differently abled individuals at Bakshi Garden and Jolly Mohalla. It is very difficult for them to move around due to the prevailing conditions in those localities," said Mimil S Josepha, MSW student of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 >>



“There is no one to listen to our woes... dirty water from the storm water drain entered our homes when it rained heavily a few months ago

— Muniyamma, resident

EV charging stations: what research says

WRI develops tool to gauge financial viability of public charging infrastructure



I Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Using the FACT tool, developed by researchers at the World Resources Institute, public charging infrastructure investors can now get project cost composition, operating costs for a 10-year period, and internal rate of return for different types of charging infrastructure at the click of a button.

Shyamasis Das, lead researcher at Electric Mobility, WRI told BM that public charging infrastructure is a prerequisite for large-scale easy adoption of EVs due to range anxiety and access to home charging stations.

"Even though there is increased adoption of EVs, charging infrastructure deployment has not taken off in a big way. There is a service gap we are trying to identify. We also want to figure out why charging infrastructure deployment is not happening at scale. One major factor is apprehension over the financial viability of public charging infrastructure preventing investors from opting for the system," said Das.

The tool provides a 360-degree view of charging infrastructure.

Das added that it's an easy-to-access Excel-based open-source tool: "Users can input public charging configuration,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 >>

3 THINGS TO DO



01 Tell us a story

The Listeners Collective announced 'Warmly Us', a monthly space for you to connect in groups and find your people. This month, the collective aims to discuss the power of stories and storytelling, and what it means to think of our lives as a story unfolding in real-time. You can also bring your friends or get your memories to share with the collective. **Where:** Atta Galatta, 178, 5th Main, 9th Cross, 1st Stage Indiranagar
When: April 18; 6:30 pm-8 pm



02 Fun camp

It's time for summer camp in the city. Art Commune Bengaluru in collaboration with Bangalore Creative Circus presents summer camp for kids of 8 to 15 years of age. The course focuses on the overall development of the kid with fun activities for a 6-day camp. Children can explore their creativity, exercise, play theatre games, and more. **Where:** Bangalore Creative Circus, 12/2, Yeshwanthpur Industrial Suburb
When: April 17 to 22; 10 am to 1:30 pm

03 House play

If you love theatre plays, here's a chance for you to watch 'Apne Ghar Jaaisa' that stars Padmavati Rao and Abhitej Gupta. The play creates an image of day-to-day bigotry and portrays its strength to impoverish the self. The play is for 60 minutes and is directed by Anmol Vellani. **Where:** Ranga Shankara, 36/2, 8th Cross, RK Colony, 2nd Phase, JP Nagar; **When:** Friday, April 21-7:30 pm; Saturday, April 22- 3:30 pm and 7:30 pm



Party animals not allowed

Volunteers come together to renovate government school in Vijayanagar that had turned into revellers' hangout spot at night

I Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

All these years, Government Lower Primary School at Vijayanagar near Whitefield in Mahadevapura had been a destination for miscreants at night as the school building had no gate to prevent their entry and continue their activities inside.

It was very tough for Govindamma, a helper, who had to clear empty liquor bottles, cigarette stubs, and the filth that would be left behind. Reportedly, the miscreants jumped into the huge plastic water tanks kept in front of the school building. It is said that they used to dirty the water by bathing in the tanks.

As if these problems were not sufficient, leaky roofs and dark, dingy classrooms reeking of fungus were additional problems for both students and teachers. The roofs had gaping holes that exposed the steel girders, causing water to drip into classrooms after it rained. The verandas were also waterlogged, where children had their food.

Now, the school building is renovated and the entire basic infrastructure is in place. Recently, the Inner Wheel Club of Bangalore IT Corridor (IWCBITC) fulfilled their dream of making the Government Lower Primary School, Vijayanagara, a happy school with the help of Gautam Nambisan, Chairman and Director of UKN Properties Limited.

The renovated school was inaugurated by Vinutha Harish, Chairman of Inner Wheel District 319. Now, the school has a waterproofed roof and a water sump connected to the tank above. The volunteers have built a grill all around the school, even above the walls.

In September 2022, the volunteers organised a fundraiser, Odissi Sandhya that featured a spellbinding performance by eminent Odissi dancer Madhulita Mahapatra. The show was a sell-out and with those funds the volunteers bought necessary furniture for the school. IWCBITC is already providing free breakfast under their Upahara scheme and the volunteers said that they are proud to say that they have donated a smart class at the school.

“The volunteers renovated the building. There will be no problem conducting classes during the monsoon”

— Hemavathy V, teacher

Sujatha K, headmistress, Government Lower Primary School, told Bangalore Mirror that she is very happy with the renovation of the school building. “The roof was leaking during the monsoon and it was very difficult to conduct classes for the children. I want to thank all those responsible for the renovation of the school building,” she said.



Above: Lower Primary School at Vijayanagar wears a new look; **Top:** Dilapidated condition of the school before

Hemavathy V, a teacher, added that the school building is now secure from miscreants. “The volunteers have donated furniture apart from renovating the school building. There will be no problem conducting classes during the monsoon,” she said.

Shanti Subramanian, president of IWCBITC, said that the transformation of the school shows that if there is a will there's a way. “Kind hearts have willed and resulted in creating a happy and joyful school environment for these children,” she said.

Upgrade for 5 railway stations in city

I Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Seventeen railway stations in Karnataka, including five in Bengaluru, are set to get an upgrade on passenger amenities at an estimated cost of Rs 8-10 crore per station.

According to the plan, Bangalore City (KSR), Malleswaram, Kengeri, Krishnarajapuram, and Whitefield stations of the capital will be upgraded, while stations in the rest of Karnataka, including Bangarpet, Mandya, Channarayana, Hosur, Hindupur, Kuppam, Malur, Ramanagara, Tumakuru, Doddaballapura, Dharmapuri, Channarayana, will also receive upgrades.

Kusuma Hariprasad, additional divisional manager (Bengaluru division), told Bangalore Mirror that the railways are upgrading

16 stations within the Bengaluru division.

“All the stations have been surveyed and a tender has been called. We are planning for soft upgradation of these stations by spending Rs 8-10 crore per station. Stations will be equipped with escalators, lifts, upgraded lounge, waiting room, and parking facilities at these stations,” she said.

“The project is being pursued due to the success of the upgradation of the railway station in Bhubaneswar at the cost of Rs 5 crore. Based on that model, we are upgrading all railway stations, and 16 stations in the first phase. We wanted to provide passenger-friendly stations. However, these stations won't be upgraded on a large scale like in the case of Sir MV Terminal at the cost of Rs 320 crore,” she added.

The railway board has intro-

duced the Amrit Bharat Scheme for the upgradation of stations, which places focus on passenger movement, convenience and integration with nearby areas, multi-modal connectivity, and improvement of access roads.

The stations will be integrated with access from both sides of the railway station. Arrival and departure areas will be separated.

Furthermore, passengers will be provided with comfortable minimal queuing, movements, waiting, availing facilities such as ticketing, tapped potable drinking water, toilets, and retail shops, etc.

Booking/reservation offices should preferably be housed inside the main station building. If, due to design limitations, they need to be placed in a separate building, they should be covered by a pathway that matches the overall design of the station. To enjoy the passenger-friendly



KSR, Malleswaram, Kengeri, KR Puram, and Whitefield railway stations are the chosen ones

amenities, the roof plaza will be constructed with spaces like lounges, recreation areas, waiting areas, seating arrangements, shopping areas, a restaurant, an acoustically designed and soothing public announcement system, wifi, ATMs, tourist facilitation counters, medical facilities, charging points, etc.

AGE OF THE DUPLICATE

Police say, if a seller is offering unbelievable discounts for branded product, it is best to cross-check as there is a chance it is fake

Ahna Prakash
c-ahna.prakash
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The police have started a crackdown on duplicate products being manufactured and sold in the city. They have also warned the citizens to double check products before buying them because as police sources said that in the recent months they have seized several duplicates of popular brands.

In another such raid, the VV Puram police arrested a man on Friday who was selling fake paint by disguising them as good quality paint from a popular brand. The man, Chunnilal, 50, has been working in the city for the past few months, producing inferior paints and selling them in the market under the names of well-known brands. The police seized fake paint worth Rs 20 lakh from the accused.

P Krishnakant, Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) says that, "Products that are duplicated mostly have a very high margin. There are products being manufactured at Rs 300 and being sold in the market at Rs 2,500 by the fraudsters so they are getting a high profit margin. We receive information about duplicate products through tip off or sometimes customers would find that the quality of the paint that they bought is not good and they



would reach out to the quality control of the company. Then the company will approach the police and we find out where the fake goods are being manufactured. To crack these cases, companies should be taking reviews randomly from the customers."

However, paints are not the only fake product being sold in the market. Another resident of

the city Ankit Kumar bought a fake watch from a store in MG Road.

"The watch was worth Rs 10,000 on online shopping sites but when I went to a store on MG Road, they said that they were having an offer on the watch and they sold it to me for Rs 6,000. The shop seemed genuine and they gave me all the documents

and warranty card as well to prove that the watch is real and not a fake product. However, after a month, the watch stopped working and I went to get it checked at the showroom. There I was informed that the watch I had bought was a duplicate," he said.

A senior police officer from VV Puram informed that the manufacturers and sellers of the duplicate products get away with it so easily because they make the cus-

Products that are duplicated mostly have a very high margin. There are products being manufactured at Rs 300 and being sold in the market at Rs 2,500 by the fraudsters

tomers believe that the product is original.

"It's not just with paint, in recent months we have caught hand sanitisers, washroom cleaners, floor cleaners and soaps that are duplicates of popular brands. People tend to buy these goods because sellers would lure them by giving discounts. But customers should make sure what the actual prices are and if they are getting a product at half that price, they should double check," he said.

No action on harasser as cops play jurisdiction card

A legal researcher took to social media after allegedly being harassed by a cab driver. The woman also claimed that the police refused to file an FIR because of confusion over jurisdiction. According to the screenshots posted by lawyer Nitisha Das, she had booked a cab at around 11:18 am and was dropped off at her location by 11:30 am. By around 11:34 am, she started receiving messages from the cab driver. The cab driver got her number because she had paid using a payment app, said the woman.

"Though I warned him that I am an advocate and I might take serious action against him, he started texting me obscene GIFs and videos," she said.

The woman claims that she went to Subramanya Nagar police station but they were not ready to file an FIR and there was a discussion over jurisdiction. She added that after a complaint the police asked her to go home and they would send her the complaint copy in the evening. However, there was no call and there was no action by the police, claimed the victim.

"The major role of the police is to protect and ensure the safety of citizens/people rather than rant about jurisdiction. It's miserable to see this situation at the police station. The police officers have no idea about zero FIR and have no knowledge of the difference between an FIR and a complaint. I requested them to file an FIR but they didn't," she added.

- Ahna Prakash

IT firms set subdued tone

The results of top-tier companies TCS and Infosys have tripped on global uncertainties and missed street estimates, setting a subdued tone for Q4 show by the IT pack, and experts see choppy 1-2 quarters for the industry but are hopeful of subsequent recovery.

The earnings' season started on a sombre note with the Q4 scorecards that fell short of expectations, but the management commentary of India's top two IT services companies was punctuated with words of caution about prevailing customer sentiments across BFSI, technology services and certain other verticals, particularly in the US. While Infosys top brass spoke of "unplanned project ramp downs and decision making delays by some customers", Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) talked of some clients deferring newer, non-critical initiatives.

Former Infosys director T V Mohandas Pai says Q4FY23 will be subdued for IT players but that extent and impact will depend on profile and strategy of individual companies. He sees "a cautious Q1FY24 with some hope of growth coming back in Q2 of this year".

PTI

'Can sleep well now as dream has come true'

The match was a "dream come true" for him, said Royal Challengers Bangalore's Bengaluru boy Vijaykumar Vyshak after making his Indian Premier League (IPL) debut against Delhi Capitals on Saturday.

Vyshak in his first match emerged as a reliable bowler for RCB as he registered a three-wicket haul (3/20), with his scalps being DC skipper David Warner 19(13), Axar Patel 21(14) and Lalit Yadav 4(7).

In a conversation with pacer Wayne Parnell in a video posted by IPL's Twitter handle, the local boy said that he had always dreamt of playing for RCB.

"It has always been a dream to play for RCB, we used to come here, sit there and watch the game. I always wondered when I am going

to be here playing for them. To be a part of this franchise is a dream come true, they have always supported me as a net bowler and also coming into the team. There were some nerves but all went pretty well," Vyshak said.

Parnell also asked him what he felt playing in Chinnaswamy Stadium and debuting for RCB.

To which he replied, "Finally, I could sleep well because late at night I could not sleep at all. You know how it is before the first game, I was very nervous. The start you guys (Parnell) gave, I just had to enjoy myself," said Vyshak.

"This is the first time that I am playing under the 40 thousand crowd around me, the first couple of balls which I bowled, I was very nervous but then I got used to it and later I just expressed myself," Vyshak continued.

ANI



Cops try to convince and disperse fans waiting for tickets outside Chinnaswamy stadium for the RCB vs CSK IPL match as tickets were sold out, on Sunday. Fans were upset and questioning the Bengaluru franchise for not selling tickets at a particular stand on April 16 as per the original schedule

BU to make space for Ullal underpass work

Higher Education Department directs Bangalore University to vacate 6,000 sq m of land

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

After facing numerous obstacles due to the need to relocate land from Bangalore University, the issue regarding construction of an underpass at the Ullal Junction has now been resolved.

The Higher Education Department has directed Bangalore University to vacate 6,000 square metres of space for construction purposes. However, the university was earlier hesitant to provide space for construction, which led to problems during the work on the junction.

The government has given permission to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to use 1 acre 20 guntas of land in the village of Mallathahalli near Kengeri junction for the purpose of constructing a road. This was stated in a letter written by the Higher Education Department to the Vice-Chancellor of Bangalore University.

Confirming this, SM Jayakumar, Vice-Chancellor, Bangalore University, said, "The higher education department has suggested providing 6,000 acres in the Bangalore University campus for the construction of a grade separator. Therefore, the department's order will be implemented."



Residents have been eagerly waiting for the construction of Ullal underpass as traffic congestion has been increasing on the main road; BBMP is implementing this project under the Nagarothana scheme

The residents have welcomed the move. Citizens in the area have been eagerly waiting for the construction of the underpass as traffic congestion has been increasing on the main road.

Srinivas, a resident of Mallathahalli, stated, "Every day I walk on the same path to reach the Bangalore University campus. The traffic congestion is increasing on the main road. Therefore, constructing an underpass is very necessary."

The BBMP is implementing this project under the Nava Nagarothana scheme of the state government to

Every day I walk on the same path to reach the BU campus. Traffic congestion is increasing on the main road – Srinivas, resident of Marathahalli

ease traffic congestion in the area. The project involves the construction of roads that are 7.5 m wide. There will also be two service roads with a width of 5.5 m. The approval for the project was obtained during the recent syndicate meeting held by Bangalore University to identify the location requested by the BBMP.

The university has agreed to construct 25 new residential buildings near the earmarked underpass location.

Furthermore, the university's compound is also located in that area, and they have informed that they will rebuild the compound after the completion of the underpass work.

Overall, this resolution brings relief to residents who have been facing the challenges of traffic congestion in the area, and the construction of the underpass will ease their daily commute.

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Bad conditions

Vijayanagar



This is the state of the area near the MLA's house in Vijayanagar.

Clean up needed

Thirumenahalli



Thirumenahalli has become home to foul smell, garbage, and clogged drains that need to be cleared.

Broken grating replaced on Church Street

Many motorists and pedestrians have appreciated the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) authorities for replacing the broken grating on Church Street with a new one.

Bangalore Mirror published a story – Nightmare on Church Street – on April 14, narrating the condition of the broken grating and missing tiles on both the footpaths of the 712-metre-long Church Street that was redesigned and developed at an estimated cost of Rs 17 crore.

Welcoming the positive response from the BBMP authorities, Brahmananda Reddy, a social activist, has demanded the authorities to fix the hanging cables on Church Street as well for the benefit of pedestrians.

"I want the BBMP authorities to ensure cleanliness on Church Street. I want them to replace all broken or missing tiles with new ones," he said.

NS Ramakant, a solid waste management expert, said that the BBMP authorities should take measures to prevent dumping of garbage at vacant spaces on Church Street and Museum Road.

"I want the BBMP authorities to engage marshals to keep a vigil on those dumping garbage on Church Street and Museum Road."

I am of the opinion



BM's report on April 14, 2023 spoke about the broken grating on Church Street



The broken grating before and after they were fixed; Before BM's report, there were also missing tiles on both the footpaths there

that BBMP marshals are the right people to penalise those respon-

sible for dumping garbage," said Ramakant. — BMB

Blockage

Marathahalli



The rajakaluve in Marathahalli has settled debris that float during rains, causing a blockage in the stream.

Leukaemia: Researchers find unique genetic oddity

Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

India stands third in the world for leukaemia incidence rates, with a median survival rate of 35.5 per cent, said a recent study. Recently, health professionals in Bengaluru conducted a study at the Institute of Bioinformatics and Applied Biotechnology, which found a novel fusion HOXD11-AGAP3 in three leukaemia patients, making it the first time this fusion has been found in India and compared to the Western population.

The study, which was carried out in ten acute myeloid leukaemia (AML) patients at HCG Hospital, was published in *Frontiers*.

Dr Sagar Sanjiv Desai, from the Department of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics at the Institute of Bioinformatics and Applied Biotechnology, said, "The aim we had in starting this study was to compare acute leukaemia patients in the Indian population to those in the Western population, because the medicines and drugs that are observed in the Western population are also used to a large extent in the Indian population. However, new drugs and treatment methods are being tried in the Indian population, and we wanted to carry out research at a fundamental level."

When analysing ten samples procured from HCG Hospital, Dr Desai found that three patients had a unique genetic abnormality that had not been found before.



Scientists find unique genetic abnormality in three patients

"This is the first time we are reporting this in the Indian and Western population. Regarding the treatment, the molecules present

have different signalling pathways and would need different treatment. They are drugs which are present in the market, and there are drugs which are still being clinically tested, and we need to see how it works," he explained.

Further, Dr Sachin Jadhav, the Group Head of Haematology and Stem Cell Transplantation at HCG Network, Bengaluru, said, "Acute myeloid leukaemia is certainly curable in many patients. However, the discovery that is made, helps us understand that there are a subset of patients, and now we need to see if these patients have good chances to get cured or not. With research done on this, we can find a better outcome."

The discovery has prompted further research to determine the extent

of the new genetic abnormality in patients and its effects on the success of treatment.

"The cancers caused these days are due to genetic predisposition and environmental factors. The cancers are multifactorial, which could lead to different outcomes. We are now planning a larger study to see how many more patients have this novel fusion. Second, how does it affect the success of treatment? Third, novel treatment that can be used on these patients," informed Dr Jadhav.

The new discovery stands significant as it can help researchers find new treatment options and develop a better understanding of leukaemia in the Indian population. It is important to continue conducting research and studies to improve the survival rate of leukaemia patients in India.

Lake rejuvenated, but trees damaged

Citizens complain that in hurry to restore lakes, no care is taken to ensure safety of fully grown trees

Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Residents living near Konanakunte Lake have expressed their concerns regarding the damage caused to well-established trees during the rejuvenation process. The residents allege that the use of earthmovers has led to the destruction of over 10 trees along the lake-side. This incident follows a similar occurrence a week ago, where lake activists observed some trees damaged at Subbarayanakere.

Residents are dissatisfied with the subpar quality of work carried out, resulting in a decrease in vegetation around the lake. Approximately, 10 trees have been found to be damaged at Konanakunte Lake.

Raghvendra Pacchapur, a lake activist, said, "While the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is taking up restoration works across many lakes in Bengaluru, they must carry out the work carefully. With earthmovers operating near walkways, many trees are being damaged. Some of these trees have been here for years, and it is disappointing to see them damaged. When we raise complaints with the BBMP regarding the issue, they deny any such thing happened, but we have seen it ourselves, and many trees are lying damaged."

He added that rejuvenation should be done using existing



Some of the trees have been here for years. It is sad to see them damaged. When we complain to the BBMP about it, they deny any such thing happened

—Raghvendra Pacchapur, lake activist

resources, and trees should not be made casualties. Vegetation is crucial to the lake ecosystem, and species of birds ranging from the smallest to

the largest depend on vegetation for food, habitat, and protection.

Another incident occurred at Chunchaghatta Lake, where over nine trees were affected due to the laying of inner fencing, said Pacchapur. "I visited the lake and observed over nine trees were affected. The roots were partly cut, and pits were made near the trees to carry out inner fencing of the lake. Fencing is necessary to protect the water body, but it should not come at the cost of killing trees. Work should be carried out in a way that does not harm other resources," he said.

Further, another environmentalist told Bangalore Mirror that trees

Several trees have been slashed and some have been hurt in the roots during renovation work carried out near the lake

provide shelter and nesting sites for birds and other organisms.

"They also provide food in the form of fruits, nuts, and seeds. Fallen trees and branches create complex structures on the lake bottom that provide habitat for fish and other aquatic organisms. Another crucial aspect is that they provide shade, which can help to keep the water temperature cool in the summer. This is vital for maintaining healthy aquatic ecosystems, as many organisms are sensitive to changes in temperature." BBMP officials were unavailable for a comment.

Cricket fun for expectant mothers



Manipal Hospitals are ready to give 20 expectant mothers a memorable evening along with their spouses by providing them with a match-day experience at the Chinnaswamy Stadium.

According to a statement from the hospital, they reached out to 20 pregnant women and their spouses assuring them of proper care at the event. "The medical team will set up booths in the stadium, and 5 volunteers will be assigned to look after them," it added. All the expectant mothers will be given a wristband for identification. Before the match starts, a health check-up will be carried out by the physicians.

Karthik Rajagopal, COO, Manipal Hospitals, said, "Adhering to all BCCI guidelines we decided to come up with a novel initiative."

13-yr-old falls in JP Park lake, drowns

A 13-year-old boy, who had gone to play at the JP Park in Mathikere, fell into the lake and drowned. The incident took place at around 4pm on Sunday. The deceased boy has been identified as Sanjay.

Sanjay, who was playing near the lake, slipped and fell into the lake, said police sources.

He was a resident of Mohan Kumar Layout near the park. The Class 9 student had come to play because it was a school holiday.

After learning about the incident, the police and fire brigade have reached the spot and are looking for the body.

Blame sniffles on heat, street food, super-spreader get-togethers

| Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Due to changing weather, doctors are seeing an uptick in cases of flu and cold and have suggested limiting the consumption of street food.

"At the beginning of summer, we are seeing an uptick in viral illnesses, particularly upper respiratory tract infections. We suspect that viruses such as adenovirus, rhinovirus, and similar viruses are driving these infections. We are also seeing a downtrend in the influenza numbers, but at the same time, we are seeing an increasing number of covid patients. Most of the patients with these viral infections have mild symptoms and need symptomatic treatment, including Covid patients," said Dr Vivek Anand Padegal, Fortis Hospital.

Dr Padegal advised that prevention is very

effective, and re-emphasised on the importance of wearing masks, particularly in crowded and poorly ventilated areas, and isolating oneself once infected. "If a patient is not recovering within a few days, they should be encouraged to get tested," he said.

According to Dr Sanjiv Rao of Manipal Hospital, there is an upswing in the number of cases of cough, cold, sneezing and lung infection. "With the flowers in full bloom and pollen wafting in the air coupled with the hot and dusty atmosphere and gusts of wind carrying pollen, dust, chemicals or pollutants for considerable distances, those with allergic tendencies are bound to fall ill with increasing frequency. With holidays on and travel increasing or exams going on, many find themselves in closed cramped environments that facilitate transmission of these viruses."

People are also intermingling at social gatherings like weddings, malls, outings, and summer camps and not to forget, the IPL, which has probably the highest number of people

nearby and for prolonged durations that would be the ideal setting for outbreaks. This uptick could be mitigated by the simple measure of using a face mask while going out," Dr Rao said.

Dr Aravind SN, Aster RV Hospital, said they are seeing cases of viral flu or gastroenteritis. "At least 50 per cent of OPD cases are flu cases. We are also seeing some cases of typhoid as well due to water contamination. Consumption of fruit juices from stalls and street food are responsible for this trend."

Dr Sachin Kumar, Sakra World Hospital, said, around 5-10 patients are approaching the hospital with these symptoms. "Most cases are of people travelling either to or outside Bengaluru. Patients are coming with a runny nose, cough and mild fever. Patients with prior respiratory problems might find it difficult to breathe. Using swimming pools and eating ice creams could also be triggering the symptoms. The symptoms are likely to manifest at night. Weather changes in the city can also be attributed to this trend."



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CHANGE OF NAME

I Ramya Ramsharma
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Venkat Ramsharma
Balabhadrapathruni R/o
Tower 16, Prestige Lakeside
Habitat, Varthur, Bengaluru -
560087 have changed my name
to Ramya Balabhadrapathruni

I Anthony Lourd Raj P S/O
Peter A R/o 529, Next To Amar
Jyothi Layout, Ashwathnagar
Thanisandra. Srk Post
Bangalore 560077 have changed
my name to Anthony Lourd Raj

I Sheema Tariq Rehmani W/O
Beigh Tariq Yousuf Rehmani
R/o G-006, #19 Syeds Serenity
Albert Street, Richmond Town
Bangalore 560025 have changed
my name to Sheema Shabir

Are storm drains monsoon-ready?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

St Joseph's University. M Sai Prasad, a MSW student of St Joseph's University expressed concern over the silt and garbage in the drain; he said the locality is vulnerable to flooding in the monsoon. "BBMP did nothing to remove silt from the drain. Waste management is zero in that locality," said Prasad.

The residents of Bakshi Garden have complained against the BBMP for not taking measures to prevent flooding of their homes and the road during monsoon. "There is no one to listen to our woes. Rain water, especially dirty water from the storm water drain, entered our homes when it rained heavily a few months ago. The authorities promised to help us but did nothing till date," said Muniyamma, a resident.

A homemaker, on the condition of anonymity, demanded the BBMP remove the silt from the drain, and said flooding is happening because of the accumulation of silt and garbage in the drain.

"This drain has not been cleaned for the last few years. I want the BBMP authorities to remove silt and garbage from the drain to avoid flooding during the monsoon," she said.

Raghavendra B Pachhapur, senior lead of projects at ActionAid Association, wants the BBMP to engage



its men and machinery to ensure drains at Chalavadipalya and other wards of the city are free from silt and solid waste.

"Let us prevent another calamity due to rains at Bakshi Garden and ensure that families of vulnerable communities who tirelessly work servicing our city needs have an enjoyable and peaceful monsoon in 2023. While everyone in society is impacted by climate change, it has a devastating impact on communities who depend on daily wage labour for their subsistence," he said.

Meanwhile, BBMP storm water drains department assistant executive engineer Fazal Ahmed said he would send workers to clear the storm water drain on Monday. "I will look into the matter and ensure that the storm water drain is free from garbage, plastic and other waste," said Fazal Ahmed.

Tool to gauge charging infra

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

electricity tariff, land rental, operational and maintenance costs and derive data points on project cost composition, the trend of operating costs, and rate of return. The tool can be used by both government and private operators. The information also helps the policymakers to understand what kind of incentive or tender clauses need to be provided in the tender document. Tender document is crucial to making the project viable."

Pawan Mulukutla, director, Integrated Transport, Electric Mobility and Hydrogen, WRI India, said, "public infrastructure setup by Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) is only being utilised by 8-10%. There are no business models available to make it

viable and the tool helps with that."

While testing the tool, researchers were able to get insight that fixed charges can negatively impact the financial viability of public charging infrastructure: "Electricity tariff has two parts: variable and fixed. Land rental also can be split into two parts: fixed monthly rental and revenue sharing. We found that the revenue sharing model is more financially viable."

Researchers are of the view that a uniform system should be avoided for public charging infrastructure. "Manpower cost deployed at EV charging infrastructures must be avoided. We have found that it's a major source of expenditure." In future, researchers are planning to write policy briefs using 100 different scenarios in the tool and will make those available to the public.

Poll battle heats up in Karnataka

BJP announces deployment of heavyweight leaders to challenge Opposition

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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Several crucial constituencies in the state are expected to witness tough competition as the BJP has announced the deployment of heavyweight leaders to challenge the Opposition. Here's what is happening.

Channarayana:

There are two key constituencies in the state of Karnataka that are set to see a close fight between the ruling JD(S)-Congress alliance and the opposition BJP. In the Channarayana constituency, former Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy of the JD(S) is facing stiff competition from BJP leader CP Yogeshwara. Yogeshwara has won the seat twice before, once as a Congress candidate and once as a BJP candidate. The fight for Channarayana has become a close contest with the BJP high command's decision to focus on the old Mysuru region. The BJP has been branding the JD(S) as a party which practices dynastic politics and is planning to organise mega rallies and campaigns in the constituency in the coming days. With polarisation of votes on the basis of religion following the hijab crisis and the call to boycott Muslim traders, Muslims are standing firmly with the JD(S). Kumaraswamy is expected to attract a major chunk of Vokkaliga votes.

Varuna:

In the Varuna constituency, Congress leader and chief ministerial aspirant



CM Basavaraj Bommai and other BJP leaders attend a party CEC meeting

Siddaramaiah is facing a strong challenge from BJP's V Somanna, a Lingayat leader. Siddaramaiah has won the seat twice before, and his son Yathindra Siddaramaiah won from here with a comfortable margin in 2018. However, the BJP has shocked him with a surprise candidate in Somanna, who is known for his ground-level work and organisational skills. The Lingayat community, which constitutes the largest voter group, has been waiting for leadership for decades in the region. With the BJP pitting Somanna against Siddaramaiah, the Varuna constituency is ready for a clash of titans. Siddaramaiah has welcomed the challenge posed by Somanna and stated that the people of Varuna constituency will decide the winner. The BJP, however, is confident that Somanna's ground-level work and organisational skills will help them win not only Varuna but also four

constituencies in Chamarajanagar district.

Kanakapura:

The BJP is fielding R Ashoka against Karnataka Congress president DK Shivakumar in the Kanakapura constituency of Bengaluru Rural district. However, according to ground reports, the contest may only bring down Shivakumar's winning margin, who is vying for the post of Chief Minister.

Shivakumar is a seven-time MLA and is considered a stronghold of the state Congress. The disproportionate assets case and corruption allegations against Shivakumar, and his imprisonment in Tihar Jail, have only strengthened his vote base. He is one of the few leaders who could challenge the hegemony of former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda's family in south Karnataka and succeed.

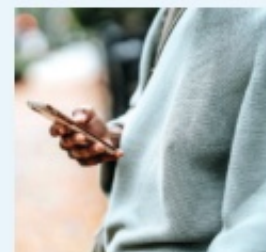
NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Cooker blast



As the election season heats up, politicians are distributing freebies to win over voters - cookers are a popular choice. However, a recent publicity stunt turned tragic for one family. A family that received a cooker in Chikkamagaluru district was shocked when the cooker exploded while boiling vegetables. Luckily, no one was injured in the incident.

Fake news



Political parties are facing heat over dissidence in offering party tickets, but they are also struggling to fight fake news. A few individuals on social media are sharing the BJP's list for the constituencies where candidates were not announced earlier and this caused dissent among leaders who did not make the list. The saffron party had a tough time dousing the dissidence fire and had to claim that it was only a fake list. Political parties are now asking their social media strategists to fight fake news before it becomes a bigger issue. There were rumours that former city police commissioner Bhaskar Rao who was allocated a ticket from Chamarajpet may give way to others. However, denying this, Rao said we need to watch out for fake news, especially during elections.

BSY feigns ignorance

There has been internal rebellion in the BJP after two lists were announced



for the forthcoming elections. During a recent press conference, former Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa was asked about the strife in the party by journalists. However, when asked about allegations that he had benefited from the party while others had been side-lined, he appeared to feign ignorance and sought help from his party colleague Shobha Karandlaje to understand the question.

'Sacrifice masala dose'



Bhavani Revanna has been in news for many weeks as the suspense continued on whether she will be allocated the JD(S) party ticket to contest from Hassan. However, the suspense ended with former CM HD Kumaraswamy prevailing and the ticket going to Swaroop, thereby taking away Bhavani's chance of becoming an MLA again. Despite that, Bhavani was seen actively campaigning for her husband HD Revanna who has been contesting from the Holenarasipur. During an election rally, Bhavani asked her party supporters to 'sacrifice' eating Masala dose or tea at Holenarasipur and instead focus on campaigning in their village limits so that the party wins the elections.

-Sridhar Vivan

Poll wrap: What is Karnataka up to?

RaGa dares PM to make caste data public

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday dared Prime Minister Narendra Modi to release the 2011 caste-based census data in the public domain and also demanded the 50 per cent cap on reservation be removed.

The Congress leader claimed there are only seven per cent other backward castes, Dalits and tribals as secretaries in the central government.

This is Gandhi's first rally in Karnataka since he was disqualified from Parliament after being convicted in a defamation case last month.

The Congress-led UPA regime had compiled the Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC) in 2011. The reports from the census have been published except that of the caste data. The 50 per cent ceiling refers to Supreme Court judgments pointing out that the overall reservation in government jobs and education for various communities should not breach the mark although there are exceptions with some states crossing the figure.



"UPA in 2011 did the caste-based census. It has the data of all the castes. Mr Prime Minister, you talk of OBCs. Make that data public. Let the nation know how many OBCs, Dalits and tribals are there in the country," Gandhi said at the Congress 'Jai Bharat' election rally in Kolar in the run-up to the May 10 Karnataka polls.

Underlining the need to make the data public, he said if everyone has to become part of the development of the country, it is necessary to find out the population size of each community.

-PTI

'Only wanted MLA ticket under BSY': Shettar

Six-time MLA and former Karnataka Chief Minister Jagadish Shettar, who resigned from the BJP on Sunday questioned the double standards of the party as on one hand top leadership is giving an opportunity to the younger generation in electoral politics and on the contrary also allotted tickets to other senior leaders who are above 70 years of age.

Shettar resigned from the party after being denied a ticket from the Hubli-Dharwad Central segment. The party leaders had made attempts to address his grievances. However, discussions did not pay off.

Shettar said, "Why was the ticket given to people over 70 years of age? Why was I replaced and not them?"

"I only wanted an MLA ticket under the leadership of Yediyurappa and Anant Kumar," he added.

Shettar's statement comes after Bommai had said opportunities are being given to the younger generation.

-ANI

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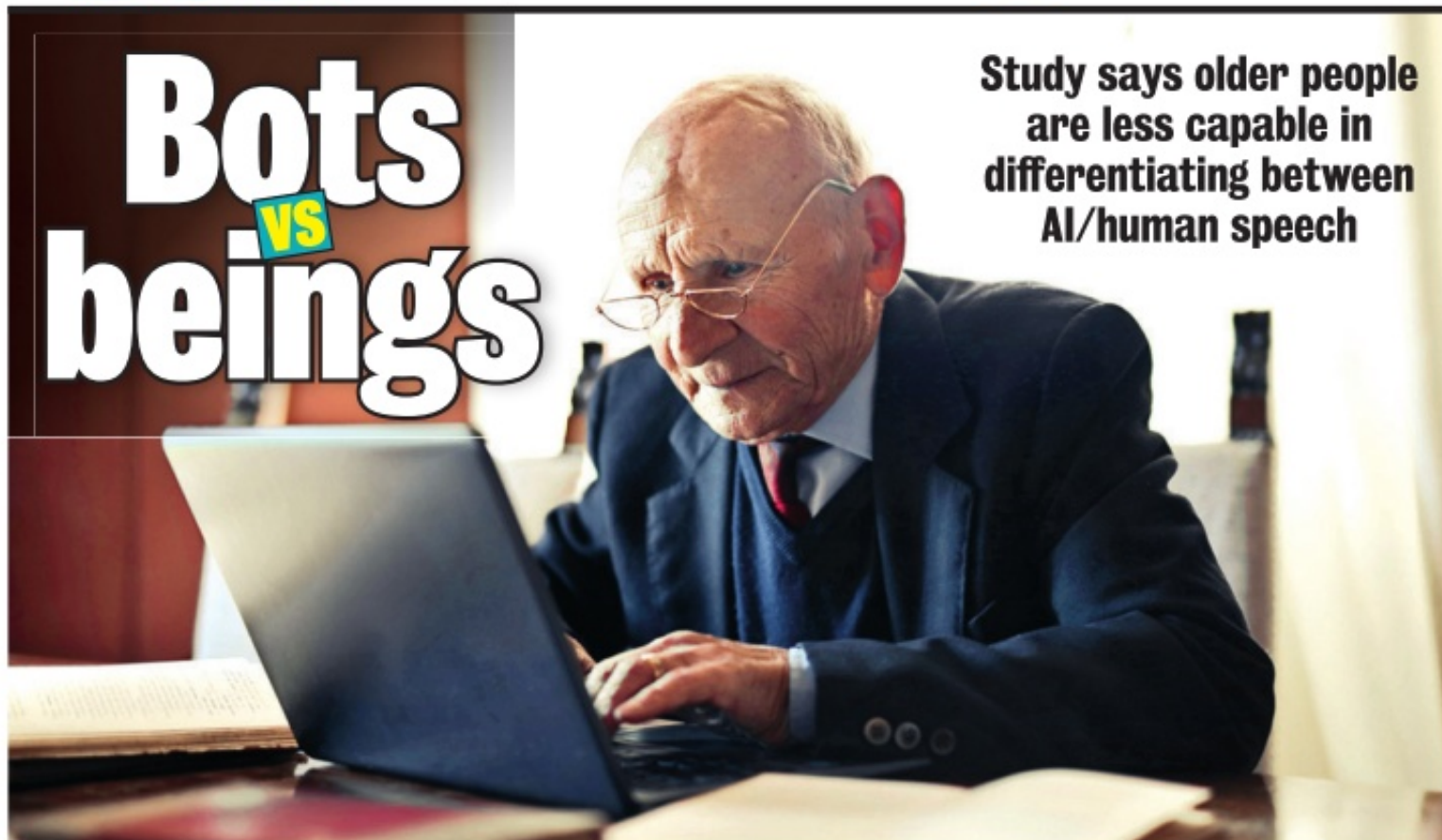
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Bots vs beings



Study says older people are less capable in differentiating between AI/human speech

According to a recent Baycrest study, older persons tend to be less capable than their younger counterparts to distinguish between computer-generated (AI) speech and human speech.

"Findings from this study on computer-generated AI speech suggest that older adults may be at a higher risk of being taken advantage of," said Dr Bjorn Herrmann, Baycrest's Canada Research Chair in Auditory Aging, Scientist at Baycrest's Rotman Research Institute and lead author of this study.

"While this area of research is still in its infancy, further findings could lead to the development of training programs for older adults to help them navigate these challenges," he said.

In this study, which was the first to examine AI speech recognition in older adults, younger

(~30 years) and older (~60 years) adults listened to sentences spoken by 10 different human speakers (five male, five female) and sentences created using 10 AI voices (5 male, 5 female). In one experiment, participants were asked how natural they found the human and AI voices to be. In another, they were asked to identify whether a sentence was spoken by a human or by an AI voice.

Results showed that compared to younger adults, older adults found AI speech more natural and were less able to correctly identify when speech was generated by a computer.

The reasons for this remain unclear and are the subject of follow-up research by Dr Herrmann and his team. While they have ruled out hearing loss and familiarity with AI technology as factors, it could be related to older adults' diminished ability to recognise different emotions in speech.

"As we get older, we seem to pay more attention to the actual words in speech than to its rhythm and intonation when trying to get information about the emotions being communicated," said Dr Herrmann, adding, "It could be that recognition of AI speech relies on the processing

of rhythm and intonation rather than words, which could in turn explain older adults' reduced ability to identify AI speech."

In addition to helping develop AI-related training programs, the results of this and future studies could help inform interactive AI technology for older adults. This kind of technology often relies on AI speech and has increasing applicability in medical, long-term care and other support spaces for older adults. For example, therapeutic AI robots can be used to comfort and calm individuals experiencing agitation due to dementia.

By better understanding how older adults perceive AI speech, we can ensure that AI technologies effectively meet their needs, ultimately improving their quality of life and helping them lead a life of purpose, inspiration, and fulfilment.

-ANI

While hearing loss, familiarity with technology have been ruled out, it could be related to older adults' diminished ability to recognise different emotions in speech



MIRRORLIGHTS

Experimental drug shows hope for long covid

An experimental drug has, in a breakthrough, shown to significantly reduce fatigue in people suffering from long covid, according to results of a phase-II clinical trial.

Severe fatigue is the most prevalent symptom faced by long covid patients. So far, there are no treatment options available for long covid conditions, which also include anxiety, breathlessness, among others.

The trial, reported in the journal eClinicalMedicine, showed that participants given the drug AXA1125, developed by US pharmaceutical company Axcella Therapeutics, reported feeling less fatigued than those given a placebo.

AXA1125 was tested for long covid fatigue as previous data from Axcella showed effects on

cellular energetics and inflammation.

"The reduction in patients' own reports of fatigue is really positive news, and we hope that further work will help us understand the underlying processes behind this improvement too," said Betty Raman, Associate Professor from Radcliffe Department of Medicine at the University of Oxford in the UK, who conducted the research.

"There is still some way to go in treating all patients with long covid -- our results focus specifically on fatigue, rather than the breathlessness and cardiovascular issues that other long covid patients have reported," Raman added.

Of the 41 patients taking part in this study, half had the investigational treatment (an orange-flavoured powder dissolved in water)

twice daily for four weeks, while the other half had a placebo.

On average, patients had symptoms of fatigue for about 18 months prior to entering the study.

All the patients who started the study completed it, and none reported serious adverse effects of either the treatment or the placebo.

Emerging data on long covid suggests that the virus targets the mitochondrial, which are essential to normal energy generation and control of inflammation.

AXA1125 may improve energy generation and reduce the amount of inflammation in the body.

As a result, the team also tracked mitochondrial health in the patients' muscles before and after they took the medication, using magnetic resonance spectroscopy scans of the patients' calf muscles as they bent and straightened their leg against the mild resistance from an exercise band.

The scans showed no overall difference between the patients who took the treatment versus the placebo.

But, those in the treatment arm did report significantly improved fatigue levels.

Those who reported an improvement in fatigue also had improved mitochondrial health and walked further compared to those without.

-IANS

MIND, BODY & HEART



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

A couple of weeks ago, my fiancé and I went on a weekend break with another couple. My fiancé has known the guy for years - he was best man at their wedding five years ago - and knows his wife quite well, too.

I was really excited about the weekend, not just because it was nice to get away with my partner, but so I could get to know his friends better.

I thought it would be fun, but it was awful.

My fiancé flirted non-stop with his friend's wife right under both of our noses, although her husband didn't seem to notice.

I waited until we got home to say something, but he just said I was acting crazy and reading things into the situation.

He's really annoyed with me and says I spoiled what was a really nice weekend. But from where I was standing, it seemed obvious they were flirting and I didn't like it.

What can I do? As things stand, this guy is going to be our best man when we get married next year.

COLEEN SAYS

OK, be really honest with yourself - could you be overreacting? Are you feeling insecure and, if so, why? Maybe your partner just really likes her, they get on well and have always had a bit of a silly relationship. Perhaps he's flattered that she likes him and pays him attention. What did you actually see?

If his friend didn't react to it, then maybe it is more to do with how you're feeling about yourself and your relationship.

The facts are, you're planning a wedding, he obviously wants you as his life partner and has chosen his mate to be his best man.

I think the problem is, now you have these doubts, you might just drive yourself mad obsessing over them and you might wreck your relationship.

-Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

HIT THE ROAD

Prince Narula lauds Rhea Chakraborty's decision to take centre stage with reality show

Rhea Chakraborty is finally making a comeback on the small screen with the 19th season of MTV Roadies, three years post Sushant Singh Rajput's death. While the actress has been at the receiving end of trolling on social media, Prince Narula, who is one of the gang leaders with Rhea, lauded her decision and said the show is a perfect platform for her to speak and convey her message as many young people watch the show.

Talking about Rhea's comeback, Prince told a news portal that one needs guts to come back on the stage and face people. He said that the show's audience is sensible and they'll support whoever they want to. He also added that if the audience likes Rhea more than him, then people will watch the show for her.

He added that he is not worried about competition between him and Rhea as he knows that the audience would have their own favourites and preferences.

-ETimes



Bagged a gift

Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor recently celebrated their first wedding anniversary. On Friday, the couple had stepped out to survey their under-construction house in Mumbai. Alia was seen blushing while Ranbir was all smiles when they were greeted by the paparazzi. In the pictures, fans noticed that Alia was carrying an expensive handbag and they have now started believing that Ranbir has gifted her on their anniversary.

In a video shared by the paparazzi, Ranbir can be seen stepping out from the Mumbai airport with a shopping in his hand. People felt that he has bought a Chanel bag, worth USD 12250 (Rs 10 lakh approximately) from London for Alia.

When people spotted Alia carrying a handbag while accompanying Ranbir on their anniversary day, they felt that it was the same bag that Ranbir must have gifted her. But, all this is just speculation! -ETimes

No kidding, only action!

John Abraham established himself as a mean villain with 'Pathaan' and looks like the actor wants to grow his action avatar. Post his popularity as Jim, the actor is planning to focus more on action packed roles and is not looking to venture into comedy genre.

According to a news portal, John Abraham has quit comedy entertainer '100%' and is also not too keen to take up 'Awara Pagal Deewana 2'. Rather, the actor is looking for scripts with a high action quotient. John Abraham is also reportedly in discussion for a spin off movie based on his character of Jim from 'Pathaan', but there has been no confirmation about it yet.

-ETimes



SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Big-ticket action



The shooting of the Niranjan Sudhindra-starrer *Hunter* is progressing briskly. Niranjan is Real Star Uppendra's nephew. He has acted in the films *2nd Half* and *Namma Hudugaru*.

According to producer Trivikram Sapalya, around 70% of the shooting of *Hunter* is over. "Actor Kabir Bedi plays a key role in this movie. Other than Kannada, we are planning to release this movie in Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, and Hindi," said Sapalya.

The movie has Tamil actor Sharath Kumar and Malayalam actress Sowmya Menon, multi-lingual movie actor Suman and Sadhu Kokila. *Hunter* is director Vinay Krishna's second film. "Hunter is an out and out action movie. I want to thank Niranjan Sudhindra for agreeing to put on weight for this film. Stunt Master Ganesh choreographed action scenes and Chandan Shetty scored music. I am trying to complete the shooting by the end of June," said Krishna.

Hunter would be one of the big-budget movies, Niranjan said. "I am fortunate to get a chance to share the screen with well-known actors from north and south," he said.

Ode to hockey

Adyah Thimmaiah, an upcoming actor, has worn many hats in the forthcoming movie *Jersey Number 10*, a sports drama based on hockey. Adyah, who plays the lead, has directed the film, bankrolled it and written the script for it with his mother Chondakki Thimmaiah.

"I decided to make this film because there are not many Kannada movies on hockey. The shooting and post-production work of this movie is completed," said Adyah.

Adyah debuts as a hero with the movie. "I ensured it has all ingredients such as emotions, romance and action besides an attempt to promote hockey because it is not getting importance on par with football or cricket," he said.

Dattatreya plays the grandfather of the hero in this movie. "The movie revolves around a grandfather and grandson. The grandfather was a hockey player, but he could not represent India due to his haughtiness. He wants his grandson to play hockey but the latter too is arrogant," he said.



MANJA (KANNADA)

3.0 RATING ★★★★★

DIRECTOR Harshith Anand
ACTORS Master Chinmay, Asha Sujay, Vinayak S K, Dhananjaya, Swathi, Sai Tharun
Duration 125 minutes

Strings attached



glass-coated synthetic string that is used to fly kites. The director has included the process of how these kite strings are made to ensure the audiences understand how dangerous they can be for stray animals, birds and human beings.

The story is about Manja (Master Chinmay), a 12-year-old boy and his mother Suma (Asha Sujay). Manja is fond of kites but his mother wants him to focus on his studies. Suma, being a widow, has to work as a house help to make ends meet. Manja's friends want him to participate in a kite festival to be held in Ramanagara but his mother tells him that he can participate in the kite festival provided he scores more than 80 percent in the examination. What happens to Manja is what the movie is all about.

The director, in this movie, tries to convey a message to the society, especially to gullible children who are fond of flying kites and about the dangers of Chinese manja, a

Master Chinmay is at his best. He walks away with all honours for his sterling performance, as an expert in kite flying, obedient son and an intelligent student. Asha Sujay, as a mother who wants her son to have a bright future, has acted well. Her acting while chiding and coaxing her child are good. Swathi, as a teacher, has acted well. Dhananjaya, Sai Tharun, and Vinayak SK have provided good support.

As far as the technical team's contribution is concerned, cinematography by Dev Dut and Madhusudhan S is good. Anantha Subramanya, who has written the script for this movie, has all it takes to establish himself as a good script writer in the industry.

The film is worth a watch for the whole family, especially young ones who have an interest in kite-flying.

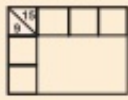
-Y Maheswara Reddy

What makes *Manja* extra-special is that it has already participated in 12 film festivals and bagged six awards and laurels till date. The journey of *Manja* is expected to continue as it will take part in more international film festivals.

This is the second movie for Harshith Anand as a director. He debuted as a director with Kannada movie *Stoned* which highlighted the ill-effects of drugs.

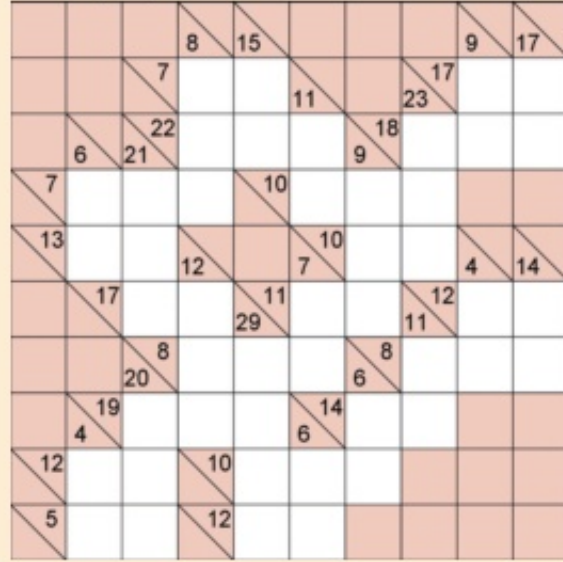
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

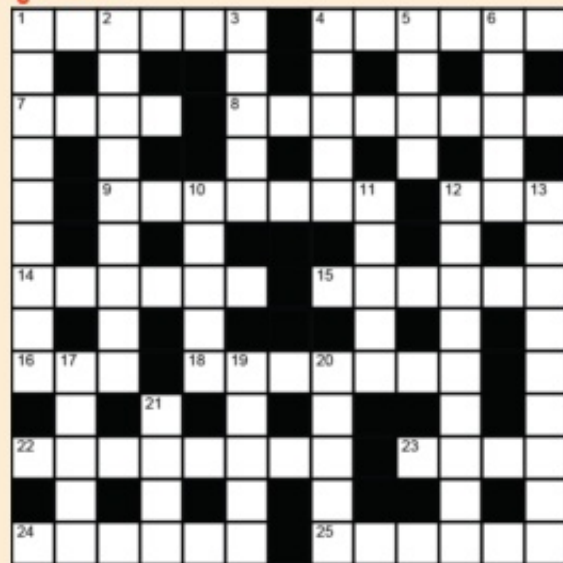


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

- 1 Carry out (6)
- 4 Tender and brittle (6)
- 7 Kind of pudding (4)
- 8 Raged, revolted or stampeded (8)
- 9 Balearic island (7)
- 12 Soap flax (3)
- 14 Ragged youngster (6)
- 15 Afternoon nap (6)
- 16 Whimsical (3)
- 18 Revising copies (7)
- 22 Tourist destination famous for white water rafting (8)
- 23 Branch (4)
- 24 Shiny evergreen shrub (6)
- 25 Individual (6)

DOWN

- 1 Punch; blow (9)
- 2 Dispute over or about words (9)
- 3 Slow musical tempo (5)
- 4 Funny (5)
- 5 Mosque leader (4)
- 6 Part or section (5)
- 10 Unsophisticated (5)
- 11 Legal get-out (5)
- 12 Quitting one's post (9)
- 13 Easily controlled, docile (9)
- 17 Foe (5)
- 19 Operated a vehicle (5)
- 20 A lock of hair (5)
- 21 Roasting-rod? (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: I EQUALS C
HPQ XSU KPR ARQIU'H CQSA
WRRR MRREI PSI UR SANSUH-
SWQ RNQC HPQ XSU KPR LSU'H
CQSA HPQX.



Linemaro

I don't mind failing for you even if it's like jumping without a safety net underneath



Mindchow

The true source of abundance is the silent mind, for within its fertile quietude rests all potential, all power and all promise



Joke of the day

A man visits a doctor with a banana in his left ear, a carrot up his nose, and a cucumber in his right ear. "Well doc - what do you zhink's wrong with me?" "Easy," says the doctor. "You're not eating properly."

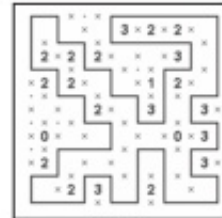
Loop

Rules

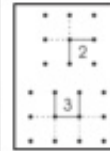
» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

How to begin:

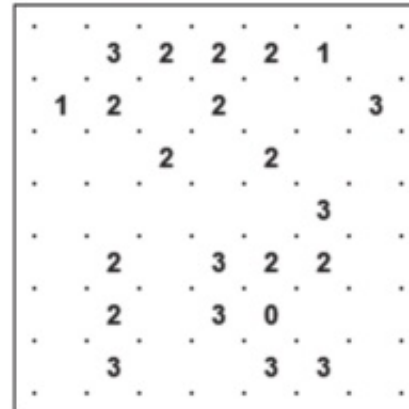
Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



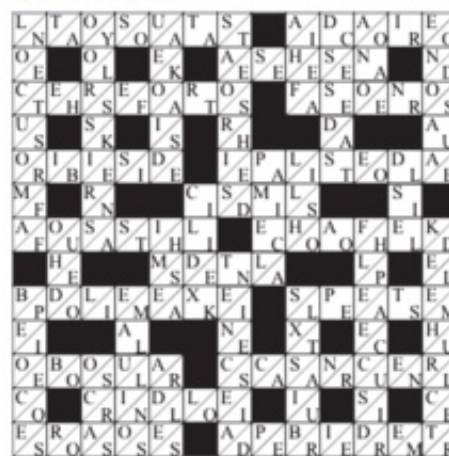
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



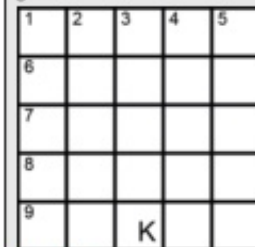
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

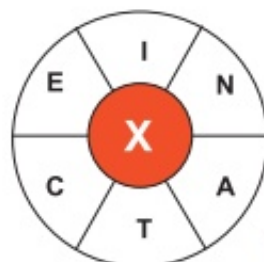
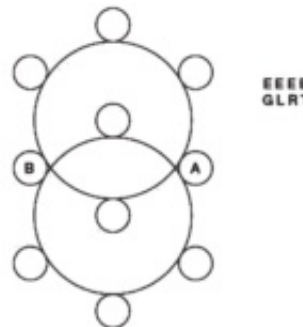
- 1 Mt Ass; 6 On hut;
- 7 Rotes; 8 So ere;
- 9 Drake

DOWN

- 1 Serum; 2 Ratan;
- 3 Hooks; 4 Tores;
- 5 Ed set

Mensapuzzle

Fill in the letters to make two dogs of six letters each.



Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

03 Average; 04 Good; 05 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge



To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy

□ □ □ □ □ = 26

3 5 9 9

Medium

□ □ □ □ □ = 6

3 3 4 5

Hard

□ □ □ □ □ = 14

3 6 7 5

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Badge is higher. 2. Tag is missing. 3. Button is added. 4. Light is wider. 5. Label is missing. 6. Counter is not as wide.

Riddler

What is represented by the following?
HANY HAEY HAEY HADY HALY HAEY

Alpha triangle

- 1 One of the poles
- 2 A's alternative
- 3 Moved fast
- 4 Close by
- 5 Gains by labour
- 6 Large birds
- 7 Poison

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be

made at each step answering to the clue given.

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson



Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil



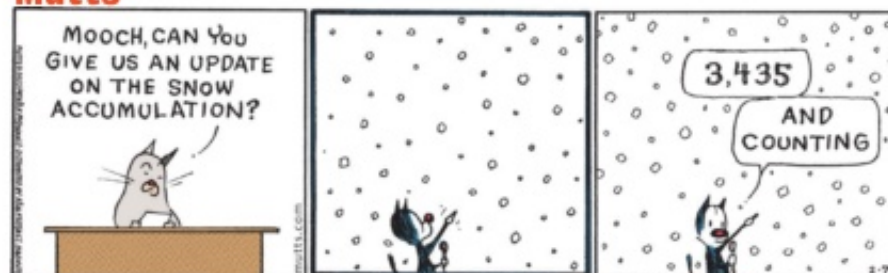
Hart of the city



Crankshaft



Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 - Apr 20

Today, you may need to control your straightforwardness as it may affect your relationships with those around you. You may plan to renovate your house and purchase some artifacts for your home. You may enjoy attending a social event that could expand your network. You may also invest some capital in your family business.



Leo Jul 24 - Aug 23

Today, you may be busy at work, which could exhaust you mentally. You may not be able to enjoy a family event or arrive late, which could affect your domestic harmony. Your seniors may praise your efficiency, which could lead to a promotion in your current job.



Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 22

Today, you may be able to resolve many problems with your speaking skills. You may plan to pursue higher studies to enhance your skills, which could benefit your career in the near future. Love birds may enjoy their romantic moments, and you may be able to control your opponents and rivals. You may also plan for a house or vehicle loan.



Taurus Apr 21 - May 20

Today, you may be blessed by the moon, which may help you wake up feeling refreshed and healthy. The moon may increase your confidence, which could reflect in your work. Old health issues may be resolved now, and you may also be able to help someone in need, which may enhance your reputation.



Virgo Aug 24 - Sep 23

Today, you may be blessed by elders. Your recent crunch may be resolved, and destiny may be on your side. Stopped projects may start automatically, and money that was stuck may be recovered. You may plan a spiritual trip with family members, which could increase your inner strength. You may also have a chance for an overseas trip or long-distance travel.



Capricorn Dec 23 - Jan 20

Today, you may be busy with your child's education and may travel for it. You may plan for a change in your current job or higher education to enhance your career. You may also receive some good news related to a job interview. Love birds may enjoy happy moments.



Gemini May 21 - Jun 21

Today, you may feel unhappy and dull, which could affect your work. There may be some delay in your current projects, leading to arrogance in your nature. It is advised to avoid adventure tours or rash driving. Remember to keep patience.



Libra Sep 24 - Oct 22

Today, you may be affected by the negative moon, which may make you upset and arrogant. You may be ready for sudden and unexpected changes in your routine. Your profits may be converted into losses, so it is advised to postpone making investments for a few days. You may be in a self-exploration stage, which could lead you towards the reality of life.



Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb 19

Today, you may likely have a change in your place or position. It is advised to read any document carefully before signing. You are advised to be careful regarding your parents' health, and postponing risky investments is suggested.



Cancer Jun 22 - July 23

Today, you may receive a big order, which could increase your business. You may receive some benefits at work with the help of an influential person, and promotions may be on the horizon. Job seekers may find a suitable job. You may plan to renovate your house or office, which could enhance your status, and you may enjoy romantic moments with your loved one.



Scorpio Oct 23 - Nov 22

Today, you are blessed by the moon, and money that was stuck may be recovered, increasing your financial health. You may be in a prime position at your office in terms of leading a project, and you may receive incentives such as promotions. Understanding with your spouse may improve, creating domestic harmony.



Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20

Today, you are blessed by the moon, and you may be energetic and take quick decisions regarding your business. Your subordinates may help you complete your project before the deadline, increasing trust in the environment. Disputes with siblings may be resolved, and job seekers may get jobs.



KIDZONE



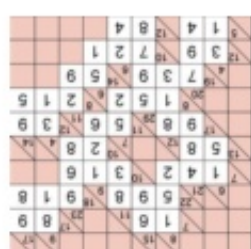
Hema V,
13 Years,
Indiranagar
Cambridge
School



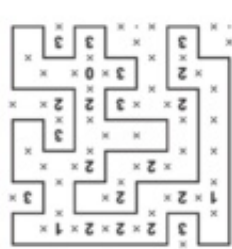
Sukrutha S,
10 Years,
Silicon City
Public School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCGF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

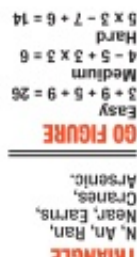
SOLUTIONS



KAKURO



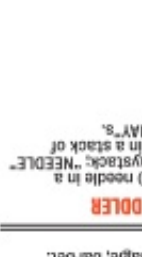
LOOP



ALPHA



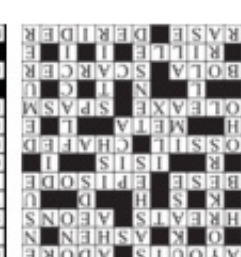
SUDOKU



MENSA PUZZLE



QUICK



STRIKE OUT



BULL'S EYE



SOLVE IN 1M

2500000 THRILL SEEKERS.

1 LIMITLESS LEGACY.

SWIFT



BELIMITLESS



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